



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

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Subject: New Guidelines for Issuance of ACO Warrants

Applicability: Information

1. HQ Directorate of Contracting in partnership with E&C will be issuing new guidance for the issuance of all contracting officer warrants including ACO warrants. The new warrant policy will be issued within the next 60 days. The purpose of this ECB is to explain the forthcoming warrant policy changes that affect individuals aspiring to obtain or increase the threshold of an ACO warrant.
2. New ACO warrants will be issued to individuals who are in positions that require a warrant and are certified Level II in the Contracting career field. The current minimum requirements to obtain Level II certification are: completion of all mandatory contracting training courses (current course requirements are found at: <http://www.dau.mil/catalog>); a minimum of two years in a contracting position; a baccalaureate degree from an accredited educational institution; and completion of 24 semester credit hours of study in business and business related courses (accounting, business, finance, law, contracts, purchasing, economics, industrial management, marketing, quantitative methods or organization and management). Individuals certified Level II prior to 1 October 2000 and were never issued a warrant must satisfy the 24 semester hour requirement.
3. The exceptions to these minimum requirements are: an individual served as a contracting officer with the authority to award or administer contracts in excess of the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SAT) on or before September 30, 2000; served in an 1102 position or as a member of the armed forces in a similar occupational specialty on or before September 30, 2000; is a member of a contingency contracting force (although they must complete the 24 semester credit hour requirement); or the individual is in a developmental position as discussed in DoD Instruction 5000.66, paragraph E2.2.10.
4. Individuals occupying positions in the GS 0800 series that require a new ACO warrant will be issued warrants at the \$500K threshold by the PARC for modifications to construction contracts under the Changes, Differing Site Conditions, Variations in Estimated Quantities, Value Engineering, Suspension of Work and Default (for time extensions) clauses. Prospective applicants must be Level II certified in the CON career field.
5. Construction ACO's currently holding warrants at the \$500K threshold will be issued new warrants professionally framed with Chief of Engineers' coin and signed by the PARC.

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6. All individuals holding a warrant with a threshold of \$100K or less issued prior to 1 October 2000 and occupying positions in the 0800 series that require a warrant will continue to hold their warrant at its current level of authority. Individuals holding such warrants meet the exception to the qualification requirements in accordance with regulations and statute set forth in paragraph 3. above. Any request for an increase in such warrant to the \$500K threshold, if deemed necessary, may be authorized.

7. All ACO warrants issued after 30 September 2000 with a threshold of \$100K or less will be reviewed by HQ Directorate of Contracting for compliance with the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act. Individuals holding these warrants are encouraged to meet all of the requirements above to become CON Level II certified. Typically this will require individuals to get some additional business or business related credits to satisfy the 24 hour requirement.

8. Supervisors are encouraged to review the training and certification of individuals holding warrants described in paragraph 7. Individual Development Plans should be reviewed to insure training is planned, budgeted and accomplished to complete any missing business or business related credit requirement.

9. Point of contact for ECB program is Paul Parsonneault, 202-761-5533.

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